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Our friends who favor us with many orders and subscriptions for publication will be glad to have their orders returned to them in all cases and stamps for that purpose.

A Certain Man Who Fell Among Thieves.

Passing over the interesting problem in Biblical chronology raised by Colonel Roosevelt's establishment of the year 10 as that in which a certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves, the application of the parable to the conduct of this nation toward Belgium made yesterday, in the Colonel's address before the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, speaks attention. Colonel Roosevelt likens Belgium, violated by Germany, to the victim of the thieves, and asserts that the United States "has played the part of the Levite that passed on the other side without trying to help the man."

It is not recorded, so far as we are aware, that the Samaritan who succored this unfortunate man expended his energy in pursuit of the thieves, or even gave to their conduct subsequent to the assault they had committed serious thought. The Samaritan, instead, "bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him." The Samaritan gave to the host of the inn two pence, and said to him:

"Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee."

Colonel Roosevelt's Biblical exposition seems to have produced a curiously inappropriate illustration for the illumination of his argument. The Samaritan practiced benevolence, not vengeance; and the United States has been benevolent to Belgium.

The Army Medical Reserve Corps.

Perhaps the most obvious lesson of the present war is the vital importance of a large and capable medical department for the armies. The sanitation of armies, upon which success or failure of modern campaigns always hinges, demands an adequate corps of hygienists, bacteriologists, chemists, diatomologists and practical sanitarians to provide pure food and water supplies and supervise camp drainage. The new mode of warfare exposes field and hospital surgeons to far more danger than was formerly the case, so the casualties among them are equal to those among other staff officers. These reasons explain the drain of physicians in England, where advanced medical students are now permitted to leave the army and women are called into civilian hospital service.

In his able presentation of the unprepared condition of the United States army for war General Wood dwelt with emphasis upon the need of training officers. When the fact is considered that while a line officer may be made competent in two years or less a medical officer requires five to ten years to fit him for actual service, this country may regard itself as fortunate in the possession of a Medical Reserve Corps provided for the army by an act of Congress in 1908. Among these officers are men like the brothers Mayo of Rochester, Minn.; Dr. Murphy of Chicago, Bloomington of Washington, Gester, Coe, Fox, Wilcox, Hays and Bakeliet and other eminent specialists of New York. That these are no "summer soldiers or sunshine patriots," but earnest men making ready to serve their country at call, was evidenced by their assembling in camps of instruction in different parts of the country last summer at their own expense, as described in the *Medical Times* of last August.

When on two recent occasions mobilization seemed imminent and the Surgeon-General addressed circulars to the Medical Reserve Corps asking if the members were ready for active duty the answer was "Ready." Almost unanimously these physicians and surgeons, whose time was golden and to whom absence from their practice meant serious financial loss, responded without hesitation.

political general would abolish two-thirds of the badly wanted medical service of the Army by removing the Medical Reserve Corps entirely.

The bill shows evidences of hasty and unskillful construction in that section 12 forbids removal of officers holding commissions in the army. This clause may counteract the abolition of the Medical Reserve Corps. If that result would really be achieved by this clumsy measure the loss of these most efficient and trained officers would be a calamity. Mr. Hay would do well before he presses the bill to confer with members of the Medical Reserve Corps among his own constituents, and especially to consult the Surgeon-General of the army.

In the present frame of the Presidential mind such stupid legislation would be buried by a veto if political reasons should cause its enactment.

One Question for Every American to Answer.

In the Wilsonian sentences from President Wilson's latest addresses in support of his military policy we believe the hopes and ambitions of all reasonable Americans are exactly set forth and the question every man must seriously ask himself is clearly propounded:

"There are two things which practically everybody who comes to the executive office in Washington tells me. They tell me that the people are counting upon me to keep us out of this war."

"And in the next breath they tell me: 'The people are equally counting upon you to maintain the honor of the United States.'"

"Have you reflected that a time might come when I could not do both, and have you made yourselves ready to stand behind your Government for the maintenance of the honor of your country as well as for the maintenance of the peace of the country?"

The heavy burden that is laid on the Government all men must recognize. The dangers that are encountered each day force themselves on public attention. The obligation of the President to preserve peace so long as peace may be preserved without out loss of honor does not obscure the possibilities inherent in the international situation. Could any more pertinent and searching question be framed for the consideration of every American than that which Mr. Wilson posed for his auditors on the edge of the middle West?

Financing the Public Schools.

President CHURCHILL of the Board of Education, in an address to the Men Principals Association, said on Saturday night that:

"The wrecking of the schools can now be prevented only by removing from the Mayor the temptation to control policies of the Department of Education through appointment, and by removing from the Board of Estimate every vestige of power to control the amount of money raised for the schools or the purpose for which the money will be spent by the schools."

"This city is to be the scene of a struggle for the rescue of universal public education."

"It is good that the crisis has come, for the sooner the fight the sooner the victory."

ments a state of mind. That state of mind is as a rule associated with the setting of ideals for the stage.

Recently two of these encouraging artistic institutions have followed out the idea of Lady Gregory by presenting plays native to Ireland and Wisconsin. Both were studies dealing with the life of the small towns of these States, and they were received with cordiality.

The Continental Army and the First Line.
At a hearing by the Military Committee of the Senate Major-General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff, said, according to a report of the proceedings, that the continental army plan had been approved by the Army War College. General Scott, we are inclined to think, could not have made the assertion without qualifying it. Mr. Garrison's proposal was of "a force of 400,000 men, raised in increments of 133,000 a year, obligated to devote a specified time to training for a period of three years, and then to be on furlough for a period of three years without obligation except to return to the colors in the event of war or the imminence thereof." The training period for each of the three years of enlistment Mr. Garrison fixed at two months, admitting in effect, however, that the experts might want to increase it. They certainly would require a longer period if they were permitted to have the last word.

Brigadier-General M. M. Macomber in the "Statement of a Proper Military Policy for the United States," prepared by order of Secretary Garrison, said: "Twelve months intensive training is the minimum that will prepare troops for war service." Secretary Garrison proposed half of that time for the continental army and in installments of two months a year for three years. This body the Secretary would put into the first line of defense as a reinforcement of the increased regular army of 141,843, including auxiliaries. "We should have in this country," he said in his annual report, "a force of at least 500,000 men ready for instant response to a call in the event of war or the imminence of war." Mr. Garrison had hazily in mind a regular army reserve made up of men who had served with the colors, but he does not seem to have included them in the first line of 500,000 troops ready for instant service in the field.

The "Statement" of the War College Division is very plain on the point of the first line of defense: "As the United States should have a mobile force of 500,000 soldiers available at home at the outbreak of war, the army, with the regular reserve, should amount to this strength." Then the "Statement" goes on:

"In addition to the 500,000 fully trained mobile troops mentioned above, at least 500,000 more—a total of 1,000,000 men—should be prepared to take the field immediately on the outbreak of war, and should have had sufficient previous military training to enable them to meet a trained enemy within three months. Twelve months intensive training is the minimum that will prepare troops for war service."

Now it is evident that the War College Division does not consider Secretary Garrison's continental army to be first line troops; in fact, it rates them as partially trained volunteers who must be worked over after war begins to make them fit to face the enemy's regular troops. If Mr. Garrison will double the intensive training period of the continental army the War College Division may consider it eligible for the first line. Comparing his annual report with the "Statement" there is certainly not a meeting of minds as to the character and usefulness of the Federal volunteer forces which he calls the continental army.

Killed on the Right of Way.

Of the 8,621 persons killed on steam railroads in this country last year 5,084 were trespassers who had they obeyed the law and stayed where they belonged would have been out of harm's way. Nor were most of these vagrants. It has been shown that the great majority of those who enter the road's premises without authority are foolishly citizens who risk their lives for convenience or to save steps.

The enforcement of the law against trespassing would end these tragedies, but that enforcement is difficult to obtain, because the offenders in most cases are arrested in courts presided over by fellow townsmen who are reluctant to punish their friends for following what may be the common practice of the community. This lenity exacts a toll of death annually that arouses little thought simply because it is not brought dramatically to public attention.

Lately the railroads have endeavored to educate the public to the necessity of keeping off their right of way, and in some parts of this State they have succeeded in producing a marked improvement in conditions. But the records of the Interstate Commerce Commission show how much remains to be done before even the elementary rule of avoiding danger spots can compel obedience.

Lady Gregory's Plan.

Lady Gregory, who has done so much to develop the national drama of her own country, once outlined a plan which she thought might with profit be adopted in this country. She wants to see every large town, or at all events the largest town in each State, the possessor of a theatre at which plays dealing with the life of the community and the State should be presented. It seems to her that in this way a national drama might be built up in this country. The national theatre, which should exist in New York, would be occupied in presenting the most successful of these dramas. Thus not only a literary purpose but a patriotic end would be served.

Of course so highly idealistic a form of theatrical enterprise could have been suggested only by a literary mind. The chances of public success for such a scheme seem slight. Private funds would have to be available to make such a scheme possible.

But the fact that Lady Gregory's scheme has been in a measure adopted by the so-called Little Theatre of this country shows that it possesses some dramatic vitality. Little theatres now exist in many cities of the country. A little theatre does not necessarily imply only a small building. It represents a state of mind. That state of mind is as a rule associated with the setting of ideals for the stage.

potential to maintain the box office schedule. In spite of the struggles of the managers this was inevitable. It is a question of the market price. Plays vary in value. The business of amusements is not like any other. It is a question of standardize "Punch and Judy."

Herr ANOLF WERNUTH, Mayor of Berlin, has turned a phrase which it is hoped for the sake of quiet in the corn belt will not travel as far West as Nebraska. "Our country," said the Berlin Mayor, "does not talk of peace, but yearns for peace, but fights for peace."

The Southern gentleman who sent lockjaw germs to his father-in-law, his divorced wife and her attorney, inoculation to be effected by ingenious apparatus of spring and needle point, obtained ineffectual with modernity by using the parcel post to convey his diabolical engines of revenge. But the method is not so graceful as the Borgia devices of removal.

There was something for the Board of Education to think about in that parade of earnest pleaders against economical amputation in the night school courses, and especially in the banner calling for "physical training." We haven't a doubt its humor was not only conscious but ingeniously intentional; a touch of art.

LLOYD GEORGE says British stubbornness will win, and there is a well known trait in the German character, which friends would call persistence and others, perhaps, obstinacy. An irresistible attack is possibly a more satisfactory reliance than an impenetrable defence. Not knowing when you're whipped is a good way to win—when the ignorance is entirely honest. The Minister of Munitions develops a stronger vocabulary when he speaks of British determination, stanchness and resolution; the active qualities which make stubbornness attractive.

A report of increasing juvenile crime in Prussia by the *Taegeiche Rundschau* closes with this notice: "It is proposed to stop the sale of alcohol and candy to young people." Is candy a cause of crime, or is the appetite for sweets a symptomatic characteristic of wickedness? Perhaps if Dr. Cook had not eaten gum drops he would never have had a reputation.

Herr Doktor KARL LIEBKNECHT, a socialist, read at the party approved by his Spandau constituents and urged to continued activity. Apparently in the complex of Prussian political forces a new orkanized element is developing. Liebknechtism, fire back of the smoke.

The Ballet Russe now passes on its expurgated way, although we tremble for its fate in Boston. But what would have happened to the organization had NAINSKI accompanied the other dancers here?

Generous citizens of Chicago are again to contribute a large sum to support an opera company. It must not be overlooked in estimating the profits of the foreign artists and conductors who come here every season. Certainly they approve highly of the public spirit of the undismayed American citizens who continue to "put up" for them with such optimism.

That clearing house for cases of mental deficiency should begin with an experiment station in Albany.

IS HUGHES ELIMINATED?

Another Inquiry As to the Result of Brandeis's Nomination.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Apropos of Brandeis, will Associate Justice Hughes now decide to leave the bench and run for President?

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Is this possibly the ratification that evolved Brandeis?

Of the possible obstacles to my reelection, what so formidable as the nomination of Brandeis? He can no longer decline to be a candidate. The possibility of another Brandeis will most effectively prevent such a situation. The

DISAPPOINTED WILSONIAN.

ERRATIC AMERICANS.

Have They No Use for Good Things at Moderate Prices?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I had a talk the other day with a well known carter and I mentioned to him the opportunity that seemed to offer of making a large fortune downtown.

"What is that?" he asked.

"The opening of lunch rooms where one could get served lightly but elegantly for a moderate price, say 50 or 75 cents."

AN ARMY OF PEACE.

Proposal to Employ an Adequate Force on Public Works.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: This nation is for peace. This nation is for the peace of courage with the power to maintain international justice. This nation has never, since the regular army, all its military glory has been achieved under disadvantageous conditions by volunteer armies. Favorable economic conditions make our regular army the most expensive in existence.

The Army of the American regular soldier, excessive as it would seem in Germany or Great Britain, attracts only, as a rule, the least desirable of our citizens. At the present rate it would be impossible to raise an army of 500,000 men, chiefly because we, happily, have not that number of men who, for inferior wages, would be willing to waste their time in a life unproductive and comparatively idle.

If we would have a regular army of a quarter of half a million men this nation must make the occupation of the soldier as lucrative as that of the industrial worker and as honorable and profitable as the American farmer. It is practicable. Let this nation institute an army of peace, prepared for effective defence. Recruit the army and employ it on national undertakings profitable to this nation. Let the army pay its way. Employ it in scientific forest conservation and timber development, on irrigation work, on the rivers and in the harbors, in improving waterways and in flood prevention, and in constructing all national and public buildings. Army officers have already distinguished themselves as engineers and architects. No undertaking arises from their work in such undertakings as the Panama Canal, the Congressional Library and harbor and river improvements.

Let us not easily employ a few hundred thousand men on profitable works of national importance under the direction of our excellently well trained standing army. Let the pay of the standing army be the same as that of the services, graded according to degree, for laborers and artisans, taking into consideration allowances for clothing, food, shelter, and other necessities. Let the value of the soldier's work be graded according to the full market value of his services, graded according to degree, for laborers and artisans, taking into consideration allowances for clothing, food, shelter, and other necessities.

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THE RENTED COURT HOUSE.

Distressing Picture of a Texas Temple of Justice.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In the article on the public buildings bill in the *Sun* of January 24 in some cases the Southern States have been told. The new court house at Texarkana, Tex., has no rooming room for the judge. I have been in the room referred to by your correspondent, and know the judge, having walked with him along the streets of Texas in shirt sleeves when coats were uncomfortable.

The room is for a reference library, with state statutes and United States court reports. An adjoining room is for consultation between judge and counsel. When several interests are involved, at least five lawyers will be in this room at once with the judge and his stenographer.

This building is occupied by the clerk of the court and the United States Commissioner and recruiting officers for the army.

Heretofore the Government had to rent quarters for all these Federal officials. I do not know how much rent was paid, but the navy has been told that it would be \$1,200 a year was paid for the use of a court room and one small room for the clerk, judge and stenographer. District Attorney and marshal would give undivided attention to a case, because of the traffic in and around the building.

The fire station was adjoining on one side, and the other, with only a pathway between.

The \$1,200 rental is equivalent to the interest on \$60,000 at 2 per cent, this being the rate given by postal savings banks. The value of the building, on its own valuation, the taxpayers have to pay an additional 2 per cent. for the additional facilities secured in the new building. The value of the building has doubled since the Government became owner.

All the Government officials in that district, including many miles of territory, are housed in the building. The heating, lighting and ventilating are now under Government control, and not at the whim of some careless landlord. I attended a session of the United States court in the building. The judge and two judges were supplied with natural gas for heating and lighting. The stove pipe extended about forty feet across the ceiling and down the wall. The judge and two judges were supplied with natural gas for heating and lighting. The stove pipe extended about forty feet across the ceiling and down the wall.

On my way out (I had stood it long enough) I called one of the attendants of the rented building, telling him the whole room would be filled with sick people if the stove pipe were not connected to the stove at once. His reply was that it would not hurt them "because we are burning natural gas."

Not far from this court house is another building, the office of the United States District Attorney, Marshal, etc. The Grand Jury, witnesses and District Attorney are compelled to meet in the basement of the court house. The judge and two judges are housed in the building. The heating, lighting and ventilating are now under Government control, and not at the whim of some careless landlord.

Until recently this Grand Jury room was lighted by oil lamps. Will anyone wonder if the Grand Jury on a District Attorney consent to remain in such quarters long enough to assure substantial justice?

Every jury room is submitted to the jury. The jury must have to retire into an attic room, dark and often at a temperature above 90 degrees. Napoleon said there was nothing too good for a soldier as to have a room that was good for the officials in whom we trust our lives and property.

If the rooms are badly lighted and heated, the jury will be forced to Judge and jury will give the necessary deliberation in deciding their cases.

When you read of juries tossing up a coin to determine whether or not the defendant is guilty, you are told that they trace such actions to a desire to get away from dark and unsanitary surroundings.

Every jury room should have a shower bath and all the facilities for the usual comforts found in the ordinary American home.

When our court houses are designed by a non-architect, the jury will be forced to Judge and jury will give the necessary deliberation in deciding their cases.

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REAL PREPAREDNESS.

What the Conservation of Good Health Means.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your editorial article inspired by General Huger's "Blue" address before the Southern Medical Association on "Sanitary Preparedness" is well timed, but will require a lot of concrete reinforcement to awaken the "average American" to the urgency of the question. It is not enough in a democracy, that the scientist should solve the problems. The public must be instructed in order to secure results, as President Wilson now realizes.

Individual efficiency is the first and all important element in the question of preparedness, and properly presented could do much to disarm its well intentioned opponents.

Prove to the public, as you can, that one great sanitary measure, the protection of our waters from sewage pollution, would do more to conserve health and values than the abolition of wars and you will bring to your aid all moral and religious forces.

Prove, as you may, that curative measures are of little value, and that individual makeshifts and that universal communal action alone can save the millions that are destroyed annually by preventable diseases.

Prove, as you should, that the unnecessary resultant loss of the earnings of these dead, the loss of earning power of medical attendance, the loss of the cost of maintenance of a sick and helpless family, the loss of the cost of the misery of it all, do more than pay the cost of any army and navy required to protect us against a world combination, and you will capture the finances.

The benefits to be derived from a race free from the results of disease, hidden waters and a resultant degeneration of the body, are incalculable. In securing the physical and mental efficiency for the highest preparedness.

OSCAR CONKLIN.

NEW YORK, January 29.

GERMANY'S 28 GUNS.

The 17 Inch One Too Large for a Battleship, Says an Expert.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I have read with much amusement what Mr. Thomas R. Macomber had to say in the interview published in the *Sun* of January 25 regarding the alleged 28 guns of German battleships with 17 inch guns.

The statement is absurd, as I have good reason to know. Mr. Macomber probably has heard of the construction of the German 1907 battleship, which was built at \$225 an acre to pay for the building of the road. The road was built, but the land was not sold for a very long time. The land was sold for a very long time. The land was sold for a very long time.

The project for a gun of this dimension would weigh eighteen and one-half hundredweight. The charge of cordite necessary to throw the projectile a distance of ten miles would weigh 350 pounds. The gun would have a measurement from breech to muzzle of at least 125 feet. The gun would have a measurement from breech to muzzle of at least 125 feet. The gun would have a measurement from breech to muzzle of at least 125 feet.

The average life of a 17 inch breech loader would be between 300 and 400 rounds, after which its grooves would be so badly that the gas from the exploding charge in the barrel would blow the gun over its base and so cause the shell to fall short. To correct this a band of soft copper is fitted round the body of the gun. The shell is fired just as the shell can be rammed tight into the chamber where the grooves begin. This is called an "augmenting strip" and enables the shell to travel a little longer without having to be reloaded.

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ORBS OF NIGHT.

Venus Is More Conspicuous, Though Smaller, Than Jupiter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Like bright and beautiful sky mirrors, King Sol the planets Venus and Jupiter now adorn the darkening firmament at sunset. Venus sets about 7:30 P. M. and Jupiter about 8:15 P. M. Venus goes on Venus will set later and Jupiter earlier. Although to our eyes Venus appears more conspicuous than Jupiter, she is much inferior in size to him. For the same reason, Venus is much smaller than Jupiter. Venus is much smaller than Jupiter. Venus is much smaller than Jupiter.

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MR. WILSON TO THE KAISER.

Were His Birthday Congratulations a Purely Personal Expression?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: It is reported from Washington that the President sent to Berlin a message congratulating Emperor William upon his fifty-seventh birthday. It is a pity that the text of that message is not made public.

If President Wilson worded the message so as to read as an expression coming solely from Woodrow Wilson, that is, coming from a personal affection, there is no reason to wonder at the man said when he tried his ventriloquist in mailed brown soap. But if the message read, and such messages usually do, as coming from President Wilson, as the people of the United States, then the President misrepresented the majority of Americans.

TILLMAN MALICIOUS.

IS MEYER'S RETORT Former Cabinet Member Says Senator Smarts After Exposure.

George von L. Meyer, who was last master-General in the Cabinet of President Roosevelt and Secretary of the Navy under President Taft, straggled yesterday at Senator Tillman of South Carolina's committee for his exposure on Friday, in the course of which Senator made a comparison of Senator Daniels and Secretary Meyer.

The former Secretary of the Navy said that to any one familiar with history of events at Washington of the last ten years it would be evident that the Senator's remarks were inspired by personal animosity and not by any hope of clearing up the issue of preparedness. He was convinced that the Senator was striking at him because of certain of his activities as Postmaster-General which put the South Carolina Statesman on the defensive several months.

"Recalls Franking Exposure." "This attack," said the former Secretary, "is not difficult to understand when one appreciates that Senator Tillman has a great deal to say about the franking privilege because, during my service as Postmaster-General in the Cabinet of President Roosevelt, the postal authorities sought to abolish the franking privilege by abusing his franking privilege."

"In the first place it will be remembered that Senator Tillman sent a type through the mails under his franking privilege. The franking privilege was broken and its contents exposed. The postal authorities were properly held the machine for postmarking a letter and refused to pay the cost of the machine."

"Then again there was the matter of his application for lands, which was probably the cause of the construction of the Chesapeake military road. The land was sold at \$225 an acre to pay for the building of the road. The road was built, but the land was not sold for a very long time. The land was sold for a very long time. The land was sold for a very long time."

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